BOROUGH OF MARGATE.

ANNUAL

REPORT

for the year

1944

on the

Health of Margate Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work

by the

Medical Officer of Health
G. L. BROCKLEHURST
M.D. (Lond.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

with which is included the REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR AND METEOROLOGICAL REPORT



Health Department, 38, Grosvenor Place, Margate.

To His Worship The Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Margate.

Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health Services of the town for the year 1944. The report is much curtailed in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and consists chiefly of Tables and Statistics and records of work carried out by the Department during the year.

Owing to the unstable and atypical population reliable population figures for the birth and death rates cannot be presented. The figures of 18.5 and 18.7 for birth and death rates approximate more to the normal.

One woman died as a result of child birth. Four Municipal Midwives were available in the town and in addition two registered nursing homes admitted cases. Maternity Homes in reception areas were available for mothers who wished to go there. Complicated cases were admitted either to Margate, Ramsgate or Pembury Hospitals. The appropriate service therefore was available for patients at all times.

Illegitimate births showed an increase on the previous years' figures. The Council has agreed to assist unmarried mothers before and during their confinement by contributing to their maintenance in Homes provided by various Moral Welfare Associations and by helping them to find suitable omployment where they can themselves have the care of their babies.

The Infant Welfare Centres gave all the usual services for mothers and children. The post-natal clinic was restarted at the end of the year.

The dental scheme for pregnant and nursing mothers operated throughout the year. The total attendances of mothers for treatment was 247, and 38 women were provided with dentures.

Children under school age requiring orthopaedic treatment were referred to the Orthopaedic Department of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. The Orthopaedic Clinic in Margate will be re-opened as soon as staff difficulties permit.

There was little infectious disease during the year. Only 6 scarlet fever and 2 diptheria were notified. The cases of scarlet fever were mild in character; neither of the diphtheria cases had been immunised and one died. Well over 90% of the child population have been immunised against Diphtheria.

Tuberculosis again showed an increase of cases. This confirms the experience of the last war that war-time conditions induce a spread of this disease. The Departments concerned are fully alive to this fact and all possible measures are taken to prevent the spread of infection by affected persons and to ensure their living in hygienic surroundings.

The most urgent problem which requires consideration at the present time is Housing and the Housing Committee dealt with this after reports from the Borough Surveyor and myself had been submitted



to thom. There are some 400 houses in the Borough which should be demolished and plans for replacing these have been considered by the Housing Committee and the necessary action is being taken to acquire sites in the centre of the town, where the houses are most needed, which at present are occupied mostly by derelict buildings, and vacant plots. Special consideration will be given to the provision of small homes for aged persons.

The Meteorological Station was maintained in operation to a limited extent and a short report on the year is included.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the various Committees for their continued support and acknowledge with gratitude the good and loyal work of my staff in these difficult days.

I am, Sir, Madam and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

G. L. BROCKLEHURST

Medical Officer of Health.

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STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Borough Meteorologist: -

GEORGE L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D. (Lond.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

> Chief Sanitary Inspector YMME a lo tembors JOHN RATTRAY, M.R.San. Inst.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors: -

E. BRAZIER, A.R.S.I. - Joined H. M. Forces 5/3/40.

W. J. HAWKINS, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors: -

Miss E. GREEN, C.M.B.

Miss J. H. DAVIES, S.R.N., C.M.B., Cert.R.S.I.

Clerks: -

Chief Clerk: - L. R. HUTCHINSON

Joined H. M. Forces. F. COOPER

Joined H. M. Forces 9/1/41. E. A. PRICE

Miss J. BRIGHT.

Disinfectors: -

W. H. MARKHAM C. F. SPAIN

Town Clerk: -

PETER T. GROVE, LL.B.

Borough Surveyor: -

W. L. ARMSTRONG, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.

Waterworks Engineer: -

H. F. BRANDRAM-JONES, A.M. I.C.E.,

A.M. I. Mech.E., M. I.W.E.

Public Analyst: -

ERNEST M. HAWKINS, P.I.C. Canterbury.

GENERAL STATISTICS 1944.

AREA: - 7,895 acres (including 963 acres foreshore)

POPULATION: - 16,640

RATEABLE VALUE: - £482,738

Sum represented by a PENNY RATE: - £2,011 - 8 - 2d.

Product of a PHHNY RACH for 1944-45:- £1,085.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1944.

LIVE BIRTHS: - Legitimate - Male 155 Female 127 TOTAL 282
Illegitimate - Male 12 Female 10 TOTAL 22
Rate per 1,000 population - 18.3

STILLBIRTHS: - Legitimate - Male 3 Female 2 TOTAL 5
Illegitimate - Male - Female - TOTAL Rate per 1,000 total Births - 16.1

DEATHS: - Male 154 Female 157 TOTAL 311

BIRTH RATE (R.G.):- 18.5 per 1,000

DEATH RATE (R.G.):- 18.7 per 1,000

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of childbirth: -

From Sepsis: - Nil. From other causes: - One

Deaths of INFANTS under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births:-

Legitimate: - 31.9 Illegitimate: - 181.8 TOTAL: - 42.7

Deaths from MEASLES:- Nil.

Deaths from WHOOPING COUGH: - Nil.

Deaths from DIARRHOEA (under 2 years of age):- Nil.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

The number of births registered during the year was 309 (170 males and 139 females), and of this total 5 were still-births (3 males and 2 females). There were 22 illegitimate births (12 males and 10 females).

The total birth rate is 18.5 per 1,000 and the rate of illegitimate births 1.3 per 1,000 estimated population.

The notification of births is well carried out in the town, and the following figures show by whom notification

was made:-

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES 210 PRIVATE MIDWIVES 70 PRACTITIONERS 10 At EMERGENCY MATERNITY HOMES in a Reception Area 48.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths registered during the same period was 311 (154 males and 157 females.

The total death rate is 18.7 per 1,000.

The principal causes of death were:-

Heart Disease Malignant Disease Nephritis Tuberculosis	98 49 9	Cerebral Haemorrhage Bronchitis Pneumonia	43 24 8
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Infantile Mortality.

The number of infants who died under the age of one year was 13 (5 males and 8 females). The infantile mortality rate is therefore 42.7 per 1,000 live births. The figure for England and Wales is 46.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Kent County Council at Maidstone carry out pathological and bacteriological work, which service is used extensively by the Corporation and by the Medical Practitioners in the town.

The chemical analyses of specimens are carried out by Mr. E. M. Hawkins of Canterbury, who is also the Public Analyst for the Corporation.

Nursing Homes.

No. of application	s for	registi	ration	durin	E	27.8 7
the year 1944					• • •	Nil.
No. of Homes regis	tered	during	the ye	ar.		Nil.
No. of Orders made	refus	ing or	cancel	Ting		37.5 7
registrations	• • •			• • •	• • •	Nil.

At the end of the year there were 2 Nursing Homes on the register.

Clinics.

(a)	Infant	Welfare	Centres.
-----	--------	---------	----------

Total attendances of Mothers	• • • • • •	6T8S
matal attendences of Babies	of Woolth	7292 294
Consultations by Medical Officer	or wearon	6634
No. of Babies' weighings recorded		

(b) Ante-Natal Clinics:-

No. of Mothers who attended for first	time	254
motor No. of attendances		070
No. of Consultations by the Doctor		189

(c) Post-Natal Clinics:-

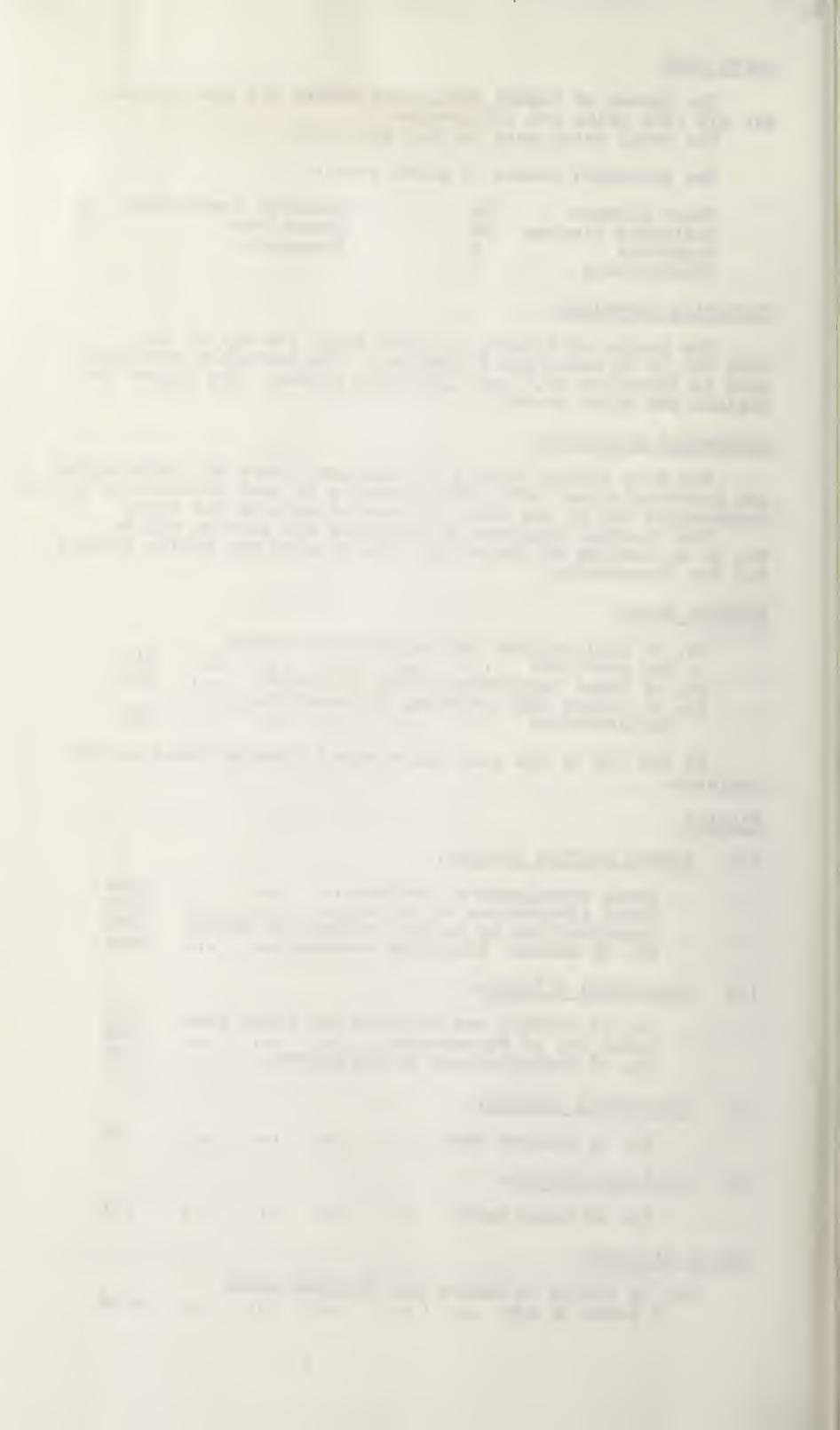
No. of mothers seen	12
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(d) Advisory Clinic: -

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Health Visiting.

37.0	A 471 01	ta	to	Babies	and	Children	under	
NO. 5	vears	of	age	9 • •			• • •	 4048



Deaths of "Residents" in Margate whether occurring in or beyond the District during 1944.

CIVILIANS ONLY. Cause of Death Males Females Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers 2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever... 3. Scarlet Fever ... 4. Whooping Cough... Diphtheria Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ... 7. Other forms of Tuberculosis. Syphilitic diseases 9. Influenza.. ... 10. Measles 11. Acute Poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis 12. Acute infective encephalitis. 5 13. Cancer of buc. cav. & Oesoph (M) Uterus (F) 5 14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum 6 15. Cancer of Breast. 11 16 16. Cancer of all other sites 17. Diabetes... 28 15 18. Intracranial vascular lesions 53 45 19. Heart Disease 4 6 20. Other diseases of circulatory system 10 Bronchitis. 22. Pneumonia.. 23. Other respiratory diseases... 24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum. 25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... 26. Appendicitis Other digestive disorders 28. Nephritis... . . . 29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis. Other maternal causes.. Fremature birth... Tongenital malformation, birth injuries, infant diseases ... Suicide ... Road Traffic accidents. ... 2 4 Other violent causes ... 8 36. All other causes. ... 157 154 . . . All causes .. 8 (Total (Legitimate Deaths of Infants under 1 year 6 2 2 (Illegitimate (Total 167 137 155 127 (Legitimate Live Births (Illegitimate 12 10 (Total (Legitimate 3 2 " Births (Illegitimate 16,640 POPULATION



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1944.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	6	6	840
Diphtheria	2	23	1
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	46		-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	una
Erysipelas	1	-	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Measles	201	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	**
Tuberculosis:-			
Pulmonary	37	-	6
Non-pulmonary	10	-	1

For analysis under age groups see separate table.

TUBERCULOSIS.

		NEW CAS	SES		DEATHS				
Age	Pulmo	nary		on- onary	Pulmo	nary	No	n- nary	
	M	F	M	ja v	M	F	M	F	
Under 1 1-5 5-15 15-25 25-35 35-45 45-55 55-65 Over 65	142622	352361	2 -	2 -	2 1 1 1 1	1	-	1	
TOTALS	17	20	. 7	8	5	1	-	1	

Of the total 7 deaths from Tuberculosis 3 cases were not notified.



Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1944 in the Margate District. Cases of

-2 2-3 3-4 4-6 5-10 10-15 15-20 20-35 35-45 45-65							Mumber	of cases	notified				
ver (Including) ver (Including) hold)	DISEASE	Under 1 year.	1-2	2-3	3.4	4-5		10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	end over
Pyrextla		•	8	H	1	t	N	Н	i	М	8	Н	8
Including 1a	•		8	1	ī	1	Н	T	Н	1	ı	ı	
## 13 1 129 15 2 4 6 4 Males Total Tota	Enteric Fever (including paratyohold)	ł	1.	1	ı	ı	1	1	ì	1	1	8	đ
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Deaths from Infectious Diseases during 1944.

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	45-65	t.	1	1	1			8	Q 1 Q	1 1 1
	35-45	1	8	ì	ŧ	r-1	١	1	ਜ : ਜ	1 1 1
led.	20-35	t	i	ŧ	1	Н	•	4	02 H 150	1 1 1
hs notified	15-20	8	1	ť	1	Н	8	•	-1 1 1	1 1 1
of Deaths	10-15	8	1	Ē	1	à	•	1	1 1 1	8 -8 8
Number	5-10	ı	r-l	1	1	1	0	\$	-1.1.1	1 1
	4-5	1	8	1	1	1	1 .	1	T t jt.	.8 .8 8
	3-4	ı	1	١	•	ı	1	1	1-1-1	-0 8 8
	2-3		1	1	8	1	1	1	1 1 1	1111
	1-2	1	1	8	4	~	1	1	4 4 1	111
	Under 1 year			ı	1	1	•	1	111	111
	DISBAGE	Soarlet Fever.	Dipatheria	Enteric Fever (including perstyphoid)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Preumonia	Erysipeles	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Tuberoules 1s:- (Males Pulmonary (Females (TOTAL	Mon-pulmonary (Females (TOTAL



IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA. The effort to ensure that all children are immunised against Diphtheria has been maintained and as a result the number of children immunised during the year was:-

Under 5 years - 204 Between 5 and 15 years - 71

Since the commencement of the Scheme in Margate in January 1941, the total number of children immunised is as follows:-

Under 5 years - 992 Between 5 and 15 years - 909

It is estimated that of all the children under 15 years of age within the Borough, 92% have completed the treatment. The great success of this scheme has been largely due to the propaganda work carried out by the Health Visitors, School Nurse and Toachers. It will be noted that only 2 cases of Diphthoria were notified during the year 1944, one of which proved fatal. Immunisation is carried out at both the Welfare Contres.

SCABIES.

Facilities were provided for the treatment of cases of scabies at the Disinfecting Station. Treatment was carried out by the Health Visitors and the patients' clothing and bedding were also disinfected.

During the year 51 persons were treated, all cases showing

a complete cure after one course of treatment.

WATER. The area of the original Borough is supplied by the Margate Corporation from the wells at Wingham, and Westgate and Birchington are supplied by the Westgate & Birchington Water Company from the wells at Sparrow Castle Pumping Station.

The supplies are ample for twice the population and are constant. Samples have been taken weekly or fortnightly and the analyses have been entirely satisfactory. The water is not plumbo-solvent. All houses are supplied from internal fittings.

One or two small main extensions have been carried out during the year in both the Borough and the Rural District; these woro for domostic purposes.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The information contained in this part of the Report has boon prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

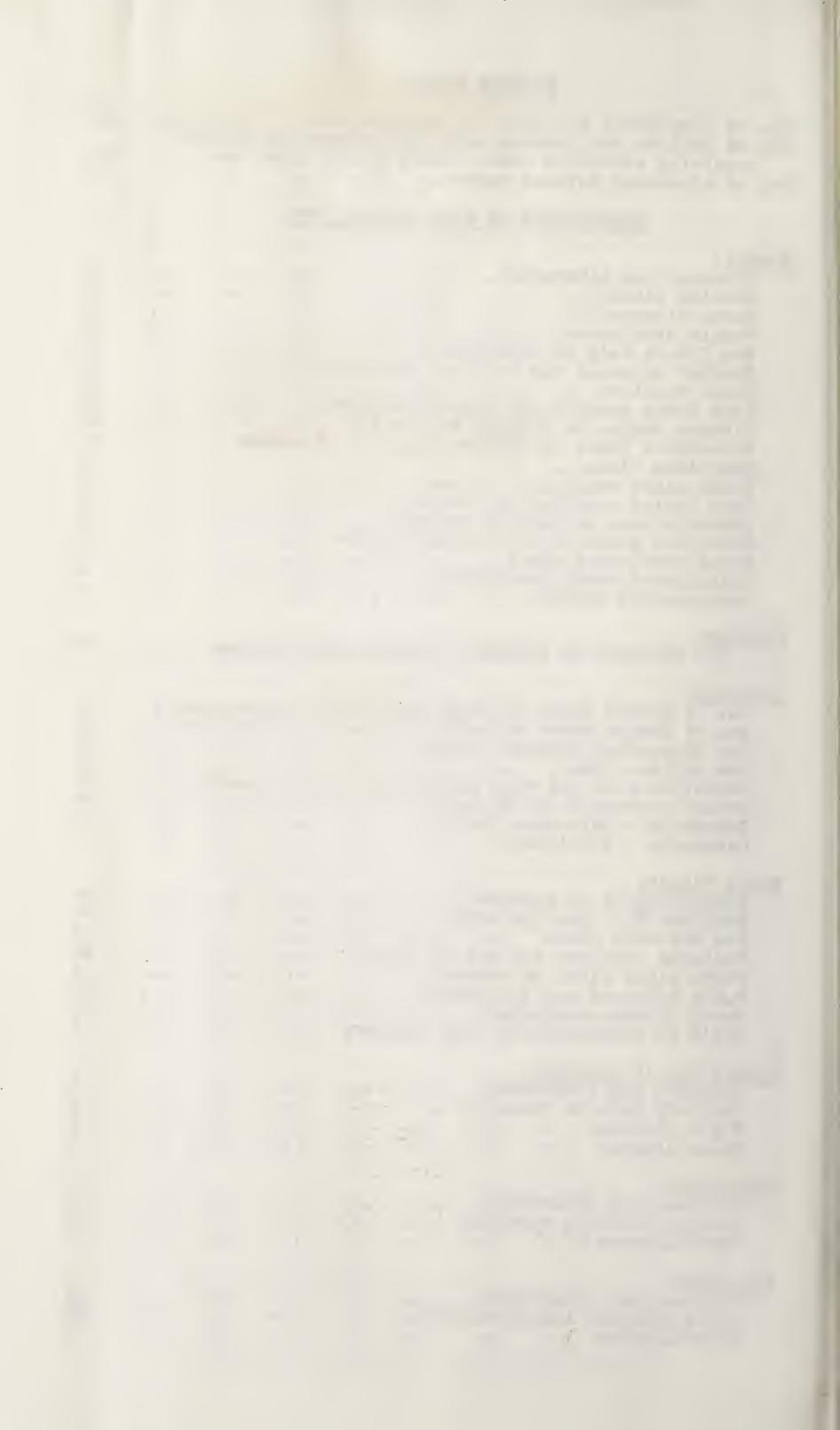
No. of Inspections carried out during the year.

No. of Dwelling Houses under the Public Health Ac	1200
No. of Dwelling Houses under Housing Acts	
Houses let in Lodgings	47
nouses too in bodga-6-	81
FECTOR 105	28
Hakenouses	139
Cowsneds & Dallitos	416
Slaughter houses	20
Offensive Trades	A 45"
Stubles.	h mi
Whitenness from Animals	A see day?
Promises with regard to hats	473
Courts, Back Roads, etc.	174
Shops and Food Stores	243
Shops and Food Booles	53
Rogenii Pant Al Collons .	6
Cinomas, etc. No. of Visits re Notifiable and Non-notifiable D	130asos . 64
No. of Visits to Routelless of Reneral	158
Middle Darance - Concret	1382
OMIGI. Typhoderace	
Total Inspections	4869
Total Re-inspections	1754
the state of the s	



NOTICES SERVED.

No. of Complaints received and investigated	• •	435
vo of Notices and Letters sent with respect to matters	3	E 7 C
requiring attention under Public Hoalth Acts, etc.	• • •	536 13
No. of Statutory Notices served	• • •	10
DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.		
DESCRIPTION OF WORK GRATISD OCT.		
Houses.		0.0
Cleansed and limewashed	• • •	26 16
Bedding cleansed		33
Yards cleansed	• • •	59
vermin eradicated.		34
NEW TOOLS TATE OF TOPALLOWS		30
Plaster on walls and ceilings repaired	600	41
Sash cords renewed and frames repaired		19
ritaben ranges or coppers repaired	2	27
Rain-water pipes or gutters repaired of runes	0 0	30
New sinks fixed	0 4 4	17
Waste pipes trapped or renewed		13
vard paying repaired or renewed		76
Accumulations of rubbish removed		1.3
Nuisances abated from keeping animals	• • •	17
Watan services renewou.	• • •	6
Dilabidated shous denoritation.	• • •	2
Ovorcrowding abated		
Dustbins.		47
No. provided on service of preliminary notices	9 0 0	4.1
Drainago.	bed	20
The same whome drainers was berusy recommended	000	35
No. of houses where defective drains were repaired		16
New Inspection Chambers built. Now gullies fixed.		22
Now guilles fixed. Defective soil and vent pipes repaired or renewed		18
the season and and algebraga and algebragation and algebra and algebra and algebragation and algebraga		24
w Whitenpood Corted a control of the control	• • •	5
Cesspools - Abolished	• • •	de
000000000000000000000000000000000000000		
Water Closets.		14
Pananatructed or repaired	• • •	24
WAGNADIOTI W. L. UCIID DI OF SIGNATURE		. 9
New cisterns fixed Cisterns repaired and put in order.	• • •	39
Flush pipes fixed or renewed.		11
W.C's cloansed and limewashed.	• • •	21
manta alagata ahalighed.		~ 0
W.C's in communication with scullery	• • •	2
Houses let in Lodgings.		-5
Cleansed and limowashed.	• • •	5 7 4 5
Sanitary defects remodered		4
40 01 m - 1000000 - 444	• • •	5
Miscellaneous		
	•	9
SAME TO A SAME THE PARTY OF THE	• • •	6
Sanitary defects remodied		5
Sanitary defects remodied Miscellaneous	• • •	
	i.	•
Factories.		5
w die niennand and limewasned.		. 8
and the firm dous		



Kitchens e	loansod and lime	washod	4 0 0				9
Sanitary d	lofects remedied	• • •				• • •	7
Improved .	• • • • • • •	• • •		• • •	• • •		0
Shops and oth	ner Food Stores.						
Cleansed a	and limewashed.			• • •	• • •	• • •	10 7
Sanitary	lefects remedied	• • •	• • •	• • •			8
W.C's. CIG	eansod	ation	provide	d.		• • •	2
	ous		9 0 0		• • •		7
The state of the s	A						
Offensive Tra	laes.						
FISH FRIE	RS. · ·						2
	od and limewashed					• • •	4
Bins pi	rovided	• • •	• • •		•••		
MARINE ST							3
Accumu.	lations removed ed and limewashed	• • •		• • •		• • •	1
Cleans	ed and Thewashed		• • •	•••		•	
Cowsheds.							4
Cleansed	and limewashed.		• • •	• • •	•••		3
Schitary	dofects romedied	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	
Dairies and	Milkshops.			Tandan			17
Defocts r	omedied under Miand limewashed.	lk & Da	irios	Lrder		• • •	6
Cloansed	and Timewashed.	• • •	• • •				
Stablos.							3
Cleansed	and limewashed.	ം • • • മെയ്യൂർ		000	• • •	• • •	7
Accumulat	ions of manare i	omovou	• • •				
Cinemas, oto							3
Sanitary	accommodation cl accommodation im	nnoved			• • •	• • •	1
Sanitary	accommoda thom im	provoa					
Liconsed Pro	misos.	and a d					6
Urinals of	leansed and lime accommodation im	proved	• • •				1
Sanitary	accommodit 02012						
Rats Act.							169
Promises	treated		• • •	4 4 4	â • •	• • •	174
Tands of	Javou III						
Civil Defen	co.	ad.			800		21
Air Raid	Shelters cleanse ater Tanks treate	d	• • •	***			10
							33
Miscollaneo	us •••		• • •		• • •	• • •	
	DIS	SINFECT	CION.				
		- 21 a1v	footed				23
	f infected house:			444	•••		
	f infected rooms			10 10 10	<i>i</i> • •		23
No. of hous	es disinfected a	fter Co	onsumpt	ion.	• • •	• • •	11
	is disinfected af						11
No. of arti	cles disinfected	:					
•	25-44	resses	314	-	illows		286
Bolsto	ets 393 Carp	eta	27		iscell	meous	292
	Making a total o	f	***	135	0		



INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table shows the amount of unsound food dealt with during the year 1944:-

Description	Disease	Weight in lbs.
Jisound Meat, Fish & Poultry 9 Pigs' Carcases 6 Pigs' Carcases 1 Sow's Carcase (Undressed) 1 Pig's Carcase 27 Pigs' Heads 9 Pigs' Livers 11 Pigs' Plucks 12 Pigs' Plucks 12 Pig's Lungs 13 Pork 14 Beef 15 Beef 16 Ewes' Carcases 17 Turkeys 18 Desalted Cod	Generalised Tuberculosis Erysipelas Erysipelas Inflammation Localised Tuberculosis Cirrhosis Localised Tuberculosis Cirrhosis & Inflammation Inflammation Abscess Heated and Tainted Black Mould Emaciation Putrefaction Putrefaction	1522 712 480 226 396 44 84 75 3 8 ⁵ / ₄ 150 66 177 26 12 ¹ / ₈ 42
eat Products, otc. Bacon Cookod Ham Sausage & Sausage Rolls	Unsound	136 5\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
Butter Cheese Suet	88 18 89	34 35 1 15
Flour Mixtures	18	122 19
Meat Fish Fruit and Vegetables Milk Various	19 19 19 10	137½ 115½ 140¼ 260 39¾
Onions Jam Pickles and Pastes Cake Beans and Peas Tea and Cocoa Ground Almonds Dried Fruit Sweetmeats	Frostod Unsound n n n n	24,920 771 38 ± 22 14 51 12 6 28

TOTALS

Description			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat, Fish and Poultry Meat Products. Fats Cereals. inned Foods.		• • •	1	15 1 1 6 4	3 1 3 1 0	201 193 01 1 203 7
Approximate weight of	Unseund Foo	d	13	9	3	13 4



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDENDED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calvos	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed			***	equi	3215
Number inspected	600	-	-	A00	3215
All diseases except Tuberculosis:- Whole carcases condemned	teds.				8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	140		t and	500	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		600			.93
Tuborculosis only:-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	çed	-	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		-	-	60	3 8
Porcentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		eed	-	_	1.46

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the year 55 samples of the various Foods and Drugs were obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst, Mr. E. M. Hawkins at Canterbury.

Description of samples and number taken: -

Nature of Sample	Adulterated	Genuine	Informal	Formal	TOTAL
Baking Powder Boric Ointment Butter Castor Oil Chocolate Pudding Cocoa Coffee Cordials Flour Flour (Self Raising) Ginger Beer Golden Raising Powder Lard Lemonade Lime Juice Milk Margarine Piccalilli Sausage Sausage Meat Somolina Sponge Pudding Mixture Vinegar Vorkshire Pudding		1121111311112112221221221122	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	2-1-13-1-12-202-22-122	1121113111211221221221122
TOTALS	•	55	15	40	55

All the samples were reported to be genuine with the exception of one Milk which was an abnormal sample.



LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of producers and purveyors of milk on the register are shown in the following table:-

No.	of	Producer Farms within the district	10
No.	of	Producers of "Accredited" Milk	2
No.	of	Producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	6
No.	of	Retail Purveyors	11
No.	of	Registered Dairy Premises	10

The following are the results of samples of Milk which have been submitted for bacteriological examination during the year:-

Tuberculin Tested Accredited Pasteurised Ordinary School	31 19 7 21 2	2 1 7	failed to conform to standard. failed to conform to standard. sample unsatisfactory. were below standard. sample unsatisfactory.
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METEOROLOGICAL REPORT COMPILED BY J. E. TURNER Capt.R.A.(R)

The outstanding features for 1944 were, the dryness of the early part of the year and the excessive rainfall of the autumn. More than half the total rainfall for the year fell in the months of September to November. March was very dry with only 0.20 inches. October was the wettest month with 5.69 inches. Rainfall amounted to 21.11 inches for the year being 81% of the average.

An unusual feature was the frost on May 9th when the ground temperature fell to 29 degrees and growing crops, especially fruit.

suffered severe damage.

Thunderstorms were infrequent, 1 in May and June and 3 in August and 2 in October. No severe gales were experienced but there were 4 gales in November and 1 each in January, September and December.

Sunshine was again slightly below normal with a percentage of average of 96. May was again the sunniest month with 275 hours and December the lowest with 51,7 hours. The total for the year was 1686.9 hours, only 65 days in the year being sunless.

Temperatures were slightly above normal but no very high readings were recorded. August was the warmest month and February the coldest.

A reading above 80 degrees was only recorded on 3 days.

Ground frosts were rather more frequent, being noted on 25 nights, The lowest screen recording was on December 26th when the mimimum temperature fell to 26 degrees, the ground temperature on the same date falling to 24 degrees.

No heavy falls of snow were recorded. Slight falls on 5 days in February and 1 day in November. On only one occasion was "snow lying

at observation hour" recorded.

Winds were variable, N, NE or E occurring on 117 days and S.SW or

W on 175 days.

Weekly rainfall reports have been supplied to the Borough Surveyor during the year and weekly and monthly reports have been furnished to

the Meteorological Office of the Air Ministry.

The Weather Kiosk has not been replaced and the Station is in a very dilapidated condition. As the Meteorological Office are again evincing an interest in the lay-out it is hoped that some effort will be made to remedy this condition. The absence of a Kiosk also prohibits any publicity which is the main object of the Station.

